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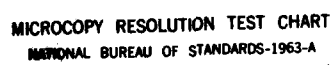
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STATIONARY STOCHASTIC ASYMMETRIC  
CONTROL

BY

HOWARD WEINER

TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 341  
JANUARY 18, 1984

PREPARED UNDER CONTRACT  
N00014-76-C-0475 (NR-042-267)  
FOR THE OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH

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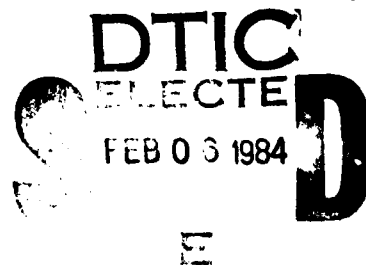
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# Stationary Stochastic Asymmetric Control

by

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1. Introduction Let the process  $X(t)$ , be defined by

$$dX(t) = u(X(t))dt + dW(t)$$

where  $W(t)$  is a standard Wiener process and  $u$  is a control function, and  $X(0) = x$ .

Let  $\varphi$  be even, convex, symmetric positive, exponentially bounded and strictly increasing on the positive axis. Let the average expected cost function be

$$J(x, u) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T E [\varphi(X(s)) + |u(X(s))|^\alpha] ds$$

with  $\alpha > 0$ .

The object is to find the control law  $u$  which minimizes  $J$  subject to  $a < U < b$  where  $a < 0 < b$  are real numbers. A two-dimensional version is indicated. The case  $\alpha = 1$  is considered in great detail in [1]. The results for the cases  $\alpha \neq 1$  are given in this paper. The complete proofs are as in [1] and reference is made to that paper for the complete proofs of the results mentioned here. In fact, it will

suffice to indicate the nature of the solutions to the "asymptotic dynamic programming equation" in one-or multi-dimensions in [1], since the other arguments are as given there, or sufficiently similar so as to not be explicitly given. In one dimension it has the form

$$\lambda = \frac{f''}{2} + h(f') + \varphi,$$

and yields the unique optimal control by the methods of [1].

## II. Optimal Law

Lemma 1. Let  $\alpha = 2n$ , for  $n \geq 1$  an integer. Let  $a < 0 < b$ .

$$\text{Let } h(c) = \min_{a < u < b} (uc + u^{2n})$$

Then

$$h(c) = \begin{cases} c \left( \frac{-c}{2n} \right)^{\frac{1}{2n-1}} \left( \frac{2n-1}{2n} \right) & \text{if } \left( \frac{-c}{2n} \right)^{\frac{1}{2n-1}} \leq b \\ 0 & \text{if } c = 0 \\ \min(ac + a^{2n}, bc + b^{2n}) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

**Proof:** The proof follows by an elementary computation, noting that the minimum is either at an interior (differentiable) point or at a boundary of  $u$ .

Lemma 2. If  $\alpha \neq 2n$ , for some integer  $n \geq 1$ , for  $a < 0 < b$ , if

$$h(c) = \min_{a < u < b} (uc + |u|^\alpha),$$

then

$$h(c) = \begin{cases} c \left( \frac{\alpha-1}{\alpha} \right) \left( \frac{|c|}{\alpha} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha-1}} & \text{if } c < 0 \text{ and } \left( \frac{|c|}{\alpha} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha-1}} \leq b \\ \min \left( 0, ac + |a|^\alpha, bc + |b|^\alpha \right) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Proof The minimum is either at an interior differentiable point or at one of the three points 0, a, b.

Theorem 1 Assume  $a < 0 < b$ .

(a) If  $d = 2n, n \geq 1$

Then there are distinct numbers  $x_1 < x_2$  such that for  $x_1 \leq x \leq x_2$ , the "asymptotic dynamic programming equation [1], is

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2} f'' + \left[ \frac{(-f)^{2n}}{2n} \right]^{\frac{1}{2n-1}} \left( \frac{2n+1}{2n} \right) + \varphi$$

For  $x > x_2$

$$\lambda = \frac{f''}{2} + af' + a^{2n} + \varphi. \quad (5)$$

The  $x_1, x_2, \lambda$  are found by continuity at the boundaries and by setting  $f'(x_2) = f'(\infty)$  or  $f'(x_1) = f'(-\infty)$ .

(b) If  $\alpha \neq 2n, \alpha \neq 1$

Then there are distinct numbers  $y_l$ ,  $1 \leq l \leq 3$

$y_1 < 0 < y_2 < y_3$ , such that the "asymptotic dynamic programming equations [1]" satisfy, if

$$x \leq y_1,$$

$$\lambda = \frac{f''}{2} + bf' + |b|^\alpha + \varphi$$

and if

$$y_1 < x < 0,$$

then

$$\lambda = \frac{f''}{2} + af' + |a|^\alpha + \varphi$$

and if

$$0 < x < y_2$$

then

$$\lambda = \frac{f''}{2} + \left( \frac{(-f')^\alpha}{\alpha} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha-1}} \left( \frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha} \right) + \varphi$$

and if

$$y_2 < x$$

then

$$\lambda = \frac{f''}{2} + af' + |a|^\alpha + \varphi, \quad (6)$$

where the values  $y_1, y_2, y_3, \lambda$  are obtained by setting the solutions equal (by continuity) at  $y_1, y_2, y_3$  and  $f(y_3) = f(\infty)$  or  $f(y_1) = f(-\infty)$ .

Proof The expressions (5), (6) follow from (1), (2) using monotonicity and symmetry of  $\varphi$ , the properties of  $c u + |u|^\alpha$  as a function of  $c, u$ , the consequent symmetry of  $f'$ , and the uniqueness arguments in [1].

## Theorem 2

(a) If  $\alpha = 2n$ , if  $a < 0 < b$ ,



the optimal law is

$$u(X) = \begin{cases} \left(-\frac{f'(X)}{2n}\right)^{\frac{1}{2n-1}} & , \quad x_1 < X < x_2 \\ b & , \quad X < x_1 \\ a & , \quad X > x_2 \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

(b) If  $0 < \alpha \neq 1$ ,  $\alpha \neq 2n$ , then for  $a < 0 < b$ ,

$$u(X) = \begin{cases} \left(-\frac{f'(X)}{\alpha}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha-1}} & \text{if } 0 < X < y_2 \\ b & \text{if } X < y_1 \\ a & \text{if } y_1 < X < 0 \text{ or } y_2 < X \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

Proof This follows immediately from Theorem 2 and the lemmas, (3) - (6).

Details are as in [1] for uniqueness and optimality of  $u$ .

### 3. Multi-dimensional case-Remarks

Let  $\underline{X}(t)$  be a  $k \times 1$  stochastic process with

$$d\underline{X}(t) = \underline{u}(\underline{X}(t))dt + d\underline{W}(t) \quad (9)$$

where  $\underline{u}$  is  $d \times 1$  and  $\underline{W}$  is  $d \times 1$  Wiener process with independent components and  $\underline{X}(0) = \underline{x}$ .

Let

$$J(\underline{x}, \underline{u}) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T \mathbb{E} \left[ \varphi(\underline{X}(s)) + \|\underline{u}(\underline{X}(s))\|_p \right] ds \quad (10)$$

where  $\varphi$  is even, convex, positive and exponentially bounded in each argument, and

where  $\|u\|_p = \left( \sum_{\ell=1}^d |u_\ell|^p \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$  for some  $p > 0$ .

It is desired to minimize  $J$  subject to

$$a_\ell \leq u_\ell \leq b_\ell \quad 1 \leq \ell \leq d$$

where  $a_\ell, b_\ell, 1 \leq \ell \leq d$  are real numbers. This constraint will be written  $\underline{a} \leq \underline{u} \leq \underline{b}$ .

Let  $\underline{c} = (c_1, \dots, c_d)$  and

denote

$$h(\underline{c}) \equiv \min_{\underline{a} \leq \underline{u} \leq \underline{b}} (\underline{c} \cdot \underline{u} + \|\underline{u}\|_p) . \quad (11)$$

The evaluation of  $h(\underline{c})$  requires the evaluation of  $\underline{c} \cdot \underline{u} + \|\underline{u}\|_p$  at the  $2^d + 1$  points given by  $u_\ell = a_\ell$  or  $b_\ell, 1 \leq \ell \leq d$  and at the  $\underline{u}$  minimizing  $\underline{c} \cdot \underline{u} + \|\underline{u}\|_p$ , for fixed  $\underline{c}$ . As  $\underline{c}$  varies,  $R^d$  is cut into regions defined by the minimum  $h(\underline{c})$  and the  $\underline{u}$  achieving that minimum.

Let  $\underline{f} = (f^{(1)}(\underline{x}), \dots, f^{(d)}(\underline{x}))$  for  $\underline{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_d)$

such that

$$f_{ij}(\underline{x}) = \frac{\partial^2 f(\underline{x})}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \text{ exists and is continuous } 1 \leq i, j \leq d .$$

Let  $f_j(\underline{x}) = \frac{\partial f(\underline{x})}{\partial x_j}$ .

For the various regions above, it is required to solve (for minimum  $\lambda$ )

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2} \sum f_{ij}(\underline{x}) + h(f_1(\underline{x}), \dots, f_d(\underline{x})) + \varphi(\underline{x}) . \quad (12)$$

Equating solutions at the boundary of these regions defines a finite number of vectors  $\underline{x}_1 = (x_{11}, \dots, x_{1d})$ ,  $\underline{x}_2, \dots, \underline{x}_n$  where  $n = 2^d + 1$  such that  $f_j(\underline{x}_r) = f_j(\infty_r)$  where  $\infty_r$  denotes any ray in a boundary region such that at least one coordinate may be set equal to  $\pm \infty$  and the point so obtained remain in the region. This determines  $\lambda$  also.

It follows as before that if  $\underline{u}_0$  = optimal  $\underline{u}$ , then

$$\underline{u}_0(\underline{X}) = \text{that } \underline{u} \text{ giving } h(f_1, \dots, f_d)$$

in any of the regions given by the vectors as edges.

Remark 2 If in addition  $\|\underline{u}\|_p \leq M < \infty$ , and if  $\underline{u}_{0p}$  = optimal  $\underline{u}$  with this additional constraint, then with

$$\underline{u}_{0p} = \begin{cases} \underline{u}_0 & \text{if } \|\underline{u}_0\|_p \leq M \\ \frac{M}{R} \underline{u}_0 & \text{if } \|\underline{u}_0\|_p = R > M \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

which follows by a variational inequality. See [2] for a similar argument.

## REFERENCES

1. Beneš, V, and Karatzas, I. (1980) Optimal stationary linear control of the Wiener process (unpublished manuscript).
2. Weiner, H. (1980). Constrained stochastic regulator control. (submitted).

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